

## SUNDRY CIVIL APPROPRIATION BILL.

FEBRUARY 19, 1883.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. HISCOCK, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

### REPORT:

[To accompany bill H. R. 7595.]

In presenting to the House the bill making appropriations for the sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884, the Committee on Appropriations herewith submit the following report:

The estimates upon which the bill is based will be found in the Book of Estimates for 1884, as stated in the following table, upon which the page, subject, and amount of estimate will be found:

Page.	Subjects.	Estimates, 1884.
141	Total public buildings under Treasury Department (Digest, \$5,876,000) .....	\$4, 817, 500
143	Light-houses, beacons, and fog-signals .....	500, 000
144	Armories and arsenals, after reduction by Secretary of War .....	893, 900
152	Buildings and grounds in and around Washington, including State, War, and Navy Department building, and site and building for Signal Office .....	838, 000
155	Public works under War Department, including buildings at frontier posts and Washington Monument .....	1, 931, 859
156	Navy yards and stations .....	3, 562, 444
157	Miscellaneous, Naval Observatory .....	293, 069
158	Total public works, Interior Department, including fire-proof roof, coal-vaults, and elevator for Patent-Office building .....	417, 100
	Department of Agriculture .....	10, 500
	Department of Justice .....	1, 000
165	Public printing and binding .....	2, 961, 949
170	Payment of judgments of the Court of Claims .....	500, 000
171	Life-saving stations, &c .....	902, 125
171	Revenue-cutter service .....	950, 000
171	Bureau of Engraving and Printing (see page 249, Appendix) .....	1, 029, 698
181	Light-house establishment .....	2, 249, 000
182	Coast and Geodetic Survey .....	573, 000
184	Surveying steamer for the coast of Alaska .....	100, 000
184	Miscellaneous objects under the Treasury Department, including punishment for violation of internal-revenue laws; contingent expenses independent treasury, expenses of currency and coins; fish and fisheries; ethnology; fire-proofing Smithsonian; fuel, furniture, and heating; custodians and janitors; vaults, safes, and locks; and plans for public buildings under Treasury Department .....	2, 895, 817
187	Suppressing counterfeiting; moieties; seal fisheries in Alaska; lands and other property of the United States; inspection of cattle; pier at marine hospital, Chicago; and storehouse for Revenue-Marine Service, Wood's Holl .....	
194	Observation and report of storms, Signal Service .....	1, 234, 299
198	National cemeteries .....	205, 440
198	Miscellaneous, War Department, including surveys and reconnaissances; records of the rebellion; military convicts; artillery school at Fortress Monroe; military prison at Fort Leavenworth; transient paupers; artificial limbs and appliances for disabled soldiers; national homes for disabled volunteer soldiers; collection and payment of bounty prize-money and other claims of colored soldiers and sailors, and Mississippi Commission .....	1, 666, 792
200	Miscellaneous, Interior Department, including surveyors-general contingent; collecting revenue from public lands; surveying the public lands; Tenth Census; Government Hospital for the Insane; Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb; Howard University; National Museum, &c. ....	2, 307, 881

Page.	Subjects.	Estimates, 1884.
207	Miscellaneous, Department of Justice, including defending suits in claims against the United States; prosecution, &c., of claims; punishing violation of intercourse acts, &c.; prosecution of crimes; expenses of Territorial courts in Utah; and expenses of United States courts.....	\$3, 275, 000
	Total amount of estimates for sundry civil.....	34, 116, 373

Total amount of estimates is \$34,116,373. In addition to which other estimates from the departments and other sources have been received by the committee since the Book of Estimates was printed. These will probably swell the total amount of the matters that were considered by the committee to upwards of \$40,000,000.

The amount recommended by this bill is \$22,314,920.41.

The amount recommended by the bill of similar character providing for the current year as reported to the House was \$23,850,657.93, which became law for the amount of \$25,589,358.06.

The estimates for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in accordance with the provisions of the act of last year include all the work done by that bureau for the departments and offices.

Those for the Coast and Geodetic Survey are given in full detail under the same provision.

Those for the Signal Service (observation and report of storms) are also given under the same provisions in full detail, and include estimates for amounts formerly appropriated under the Army appropriation law except in small part. The estimates for the Geological Survey are also given in detail.

#### LEGISLATION IN THE BILL.

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized, should he deem it advisable, to purchase a site suitable for the purpose, other than that provided for in the act authorizing the erection of a new public building in the city of Pensacola, Florida, approved June tenth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two; but the limit of the cost of said building and site shall not exceed the sum of two hundred thousand dollars, as fixed in said act. Also, to procure the appraisal of the premises, with the buildings and improvements thereon, situate in the city of New York, bounded by West, Laight, Hubert, and Washington streets in the said city, and now occupied by the government under lease, and to make report to Congress thereon at its next session. Also, to acquire, by private purchase or by condemnation, the necessary lands for public buildings and light-houses to be constructed, and for which money is appropriated, including all public building sites authorized to be acquired under any of the acts of the first session of the Forty-seventh Congress; and there may be expended by the Secretary of the Treasury, from the several amounts appropriated for the construction of public buildings, the expenses incident to the procuring of sites for said buildings respectively; and he is also authorized and directed, if in his judgment the exigencies of the service require it, to buy the steam-launches for use in the harbors of Galveston, Texas, and Mobile, Alabama, provided for by the act approved August seventh, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, entitled "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the government for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-three, and for other purposes," but not at an additional cost.

The Secretary of War is authorized, in his discretion, to detail for the service in the Signal Corps, not to exceed eight commissioned offi-

cers, exclusive of the second lieutenants of the Signal Corps authorized by law.

The Potomac Steamboat Company is authorized to bring suit against the United States in the Court of Claims, to establish and recover actual damages, if any, sustained by their steamboat *Excelsior*, in consequence of an alleged collision with the United States tug *Fortune*, in Hampton Roads, Virginia, on the fourth day of December, eighteen hundred and eighty-two.

That from and after the passage of this act the Board of Managers of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers shall apply the excess above five dollars monthly of the pensions of all inmates of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers to the support and the objects and purposes of said home: *Provided, however*, That the above provision shall not apply to any inmate of said home who, having at the time of his admission to said home, wife, minor child, or parent dependent upon him for support, shall apply the excess of his pension above said five dollars each month to said support. The said Board of Managers shall annually report the amount of pension-money received by them under the above provision: *Provided*, That in addition to the persons now declared by law to be entitled to admission to the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, any person who served during the war of the rebellion in the Navy of the United States and was honorably discharged therefrom, who is not otherwise provided for by law, and who is incapacitated by reason of wounds incurred in the line of duty or disease contracted during his said service from earning his own support, may be admitted to said home in the same manner and under the same conditions as volunteer soldiers. And section two of the act entitled "An act making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the fiscal year ending June thirtieth, eighteen hundred and eighty-two, and for deficiencies, and for other purposes," approved February twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and eighty-one, is hereby repealed.

\* \* \* The Secretary of the Interior, in his discretion, may grant leases for terms not exceeding ten years, of small parcels of ground within said park, but no more ground shall be so leased than is necessary for the hotels and storehouses necessary to the accommodation of visitors, and necessary outhouses, bath and ice houses, and for gardening or grazing land in connection with said hotels; but no exclusive privileges or monopoly of any kind shall be granted to any person or company or corporation for any purpose within said park; nor shall any lease or contract be made which in any degree or manner interferes with or prevents the free and unrestricted access of the public to all portions of the park.

The Commissioner of Fish and Fisheries authorized to designate, from the employes of the Commission, an assistant, to discharge his duties in case of his absence or disability: *Provided*, That no increase of pay shall be granted in consequence of such selection.

Where the same person holds the office of clerk in both the circuit and district courts of any district, he shall be allowed by the Attorney-General to retain for his personal compensation of the fees received by him, after the payment of office expenses, the prescribed maximum for one office only, to wit, the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars per annum; and this proviso shall apply in its full extent to the clerks of courts mentioned in section eight hundred and forty of the Revised Statutes: *And provided further*, That the clerk of the supreme court of the District of Columbia shall make to the Attorney-General his semi-annual report of fees and emoluments in the same manner and under the same regulations as clerks of the other courts of

the United States, under and in accordance with section eight hundred and thirty-three of the Revised Statutes, the maximum of whose compensation, after the payment of office expenses and other allowances granted by the Attorney-General, shall not exceed the maximum of three thousand five hundred dollars, and the balance of said fees and emoluments of his office shall be paid into the Treasury according to the provisions of section eight hundred and forty-four of the Revised Statutes: *And provided also*, That the Clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States shall make his semi-annual report of fees and emoluments of his office to the Attorney-General in the same form and manner as clerks of other courts, to whom the Attorney-General is authorized to allow, as the maximum of his office, after the payment of necessary expenses to be approved by him, a sum not exceeding six thousand dollars per annum; and the balance of said fees and emoluments shall be paid into the Treasury.

The following statement gives the titles of all the important appropriations in the sequence that they are arranged in the bill with the amount and page of bill, upon which they will be found for convenience of reference.

State Department.....	page 1..	\$29,900 00
Treasury Department public buildings.....	page 3..	2,108,300 00
Life-Saving stations.....	page 7..	748,500 00
Revenue-Cutter Service.....	page 9..	875,000 00
Engraving and Printing.....	page 10..	832,000 00
Light-House Establishment.....	page 11..	2,084,000 00
Light-houses, beacons, and fog-signals.....	page 13..	239,000 00
Coast and Geodetic Survey.....	page 14..	554,290 00
Steamer for Pacific Coast.....	page 23..	100,000 00
Solar eclipse.....	page 23..	5,000 00
Treasury miscellaneous.....	page 23-27..	1,625,850 00
Pleuro-pneumonia.....	page 28..	50,000 00
National Board of Health.....	page 27..	100,000 00
Armories and arsenals.....	page 28..	315,494 80
Buildings and grounds.....	page 30-33..	128,500 00
Washington Monument, and State, War, and Navy Departments.....	page 34..	650,000 00
Military posts.....	page 34..	324,000 00
Signal Service.....	page 35-40..	882,274 51
National cemeteries.....	page 41..	160,440 00
Military prison, Fort Leavenworth.....	page 43..	94,825 47
Artificial limbs and appliances.....	page 43..	102,500 00
National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers.....	page 46..	1,122,088 03
Navy Department, navy-yards, and stations.....	page 40..	557,500 00
Mississippi River Commission.....	page 48..	150,000 00
Department of the Interior.....	page 50..	195,280 00
Indian affairs.....	page 57..	6,000 00
Pension Office building.....	page 63..	190,000 00
Surveyors-general contingent expenses.....	page 51..	25,500 00
Expenses collecting revenue of public lands.....	page 55..	730,000 00
Surveying public lands.....	page 55..	506,000 00
Miscellaneous.....	page 60..	130,800 00
United States Geological Survey.....	page 58..	323,780 00
Government Hospital for Insane, and other institutions.....	page 60..	352,500 00
Department of Agriculture.....	page 76..	2,500 00
Tenth Census.....	page 64..	100,000 00
Post-Office Department.....	page 64..	24,400 00
Fish and Fisheries.....	page 65..	316,500 00
National Museum.....	page 67..	153,500 00
Public Printing.....	page 69..	2,377,650 00
Department of Justice.....	page 71..	76,108 80
United States courts.....	page 73..	2,950,000 00
House of Representatives.....	page 76..	15,438 80

22,314,920 41

Here follows the appendix, embracing the letters, tables, &c., in part, which give information upon many of the matters embraced in the bill.

## RECAPITULATION.

Object of expenditure.	Estimate for 1883-'84.	Appropriated for 1882-'83.	Present annual rate of expenditure, based on expenditures during February, 1883.
Hire of miscellaneous civil employes at Signal Service stations * .....	\$15,500 00	\$10,500 00	\$7,728 00
Hire of West India observers † .....	2,300 00	2,300 00	1,680 00
Hire of special river observers ‡ .....	3,000 00	3,000 00	2,675 00
Hire of cautionary displaymen .....	7,500 00	7,500 00	3,288 00
Cotton-belt observations and reports § .....	12,000 00	8,000 00	.....
Totals .....	40,300 00	31,300 00	.....

## EXPLANATIONS.

\* On February 1, 14 civil employes at Signal Service stations were discharged for want of money to pay them longer. They were all necessary to the proper performance of the work at stations, and the service is very much embarrassed by the loss of their help. Nearly all the remaining employes will have to be discharged on March 1.

† A reduction in the pay of West India observers was made during August, 1882. The \$520 surplus in the estimate is required for contingent expenses, and to provide for any necessary increase in the service.

‡ The surplus of \$325 is required to pay for special observations during floods or sudden rises in the rivers.

§ During the season of navigation on the lakes the annual rate of expenditure is \$6,811.50. The small surplus is required to cover the pay of new displaymen, and to provide for the continuance of signals on the lakes until December 31, if necessary. The season ended last year on December 15.

|| In 1882, cotton-belt observations were made from April 1 to October 31. It is desired to continue these observations during the entire year. On August 1, 1882, the pay of the observers was reduced from 25 cents to 20 cents per observation.

STATIONS DIVISION, OFFICE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,  
February 7, 1883.

## MILITARY POSTS.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington City, February 3, 1883.

SIR: Referring to your personal interview with General Sherman and myself, respecting the estimates for buildings at military posts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1884, I have the honor to inclose herewith a memorandum of the military posts requiring the first attention, prepared by General Sherman, February 1st, instant, for the use of your committee.

The list of estimates annotated by you is herewith returned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ROBERT T. LINCOLN,  
Secretary of War.

Hon. FRANK HISCOCK,  
Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.

*Memorandum of the military posts requiring the first attention.*

[Prepared by General W. T. Sherman, for the use of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, February 1, 1883.]

No.	Name.	Estimate.	Remarks.
1	Atlanta, Ga. ....	\$100,000 00	Entirely new; demanding the purchase of a site, and erection of brick barracks for one light artillery battery and six companies, similar to those at Fort Monroe, Va. Atlanta is high and healthy, with railroads leading to mouth of Cape Fear, Charleston, Savannah, Saint Augustine, Pensacola, Mobile, and New Orleans. At all these places exist old forts and batteries, built at great cost, from 1803 to 1861, which have always been garrisoned, but nearly every year the unacclimated troops have been driven away by yellow fever. Now that the railroad system is so near perfect, and each of these places can be reached from Atlanta in a few hours, common humanity demands that the necessary garrisons should be held at some healthy point near, as it were, in <i>reserve</i> , but ready to occupy any or all of these sea-coast forts on the shortest possible notice. At Atlanta the troops can also be better drilled, instructed, and disciplined. Chattanooga and Augusta partially fulfill these conditions, but in my military judgment, Atlanta is the key point to the South Atlantic and Gulf posts.
2	Fort Montgomery, N. Y. ....	50,000 00	This fort has been built in past years at a cost of two millions of dollars; is substantially complete, with sixty guns mounted, and yet not a soldier near to protect the work or serve the guns. There are no barracks for the necessary garrison, and this appropriation is asked for to build barracks for two companies. The site is the key point of our northern or Canada frontier, viz, on the boundary line, Rouse's Point, at the outlet of Lake Champlain, directly in front of Montreal. It may seem absurd to contemplate hostilities anywhere, but I need, to the wise, only recall the Revolutionary war and war of 1812, when the occupation of such an impregnable fort as we now have in Montgomery would have saved several invasions of our territory. It was here, too, that the rebel sympathizers penetrated to Saint Albans during our civil war, and the Fenians invaded Canada in 1865-'66. The erection of these barracks will enable us to sell the government property at Plattsburg, thirty miles to the south and rear. At Fort Montgomery the United States own a good reservation of six hundred acres, extending to the boundary line, and this is all the land that will ever be needed for the assemblage of an army of invasion, should such become necessary.
3	Fort Niagara, N. Y. ....	30,000 00	Fort Niagara is an old fort, at the outlet of Niagara River, on the shore of Lake Ontario. The site was a military station of the French prior to 1756; came into our possession after the Revolutionary war, and has been held and occupied ever since. The fort is antique, not very strong, but could soon be made impregnable by field-works. The site is purely strategic, and the public reservation is ample. There exist barracks enough for one company, and the purpose is simply to enlarge them for two companies and give up old Fort Porter, inside the city limits of Buffalo. The latter is rendered obsolete by the growth of that city, and Fort Niagara is all that is needed by the military authorities in that quarter of the frontier, provided the additional barracks herein estimated for are built.
4	Fort Colville, Wash. ....	50,000 00	From Fort Assinaboine, on the upper sources of Milk River, a tributary of the Missouri, to Puget's Sound—a distance of more than a thousand miles—we have no fort or military establishment on the northern frontier. One such is deemed all-important, both to prevent Indian complications as well as trouble with lawless white men, who always exist on the national borders, who commit depredations on one side and escape to the other. We always hold the authorities of the Canadian Dominion to a prompt account for the depredations of their Indian and half-breed marauders, and should, in fairness, be prepared to keep reasonable good order on our side. The building of our Northern Pacific Railroad has filled that region with a lawless class, who

## Memorandum of the military posts requiring the first attention—Continued.

No.	Name.	Estimate.	Remarks.
4	Fort Colville, Wash .....		<p>will surely compromise our government unless we are prepared to repress them promptly. For this purpose we need a military post somewhere between the Fathead Agency, in Montana, and Puget's Sound, preferably at some point near old Fort Colville. We succeeded to that post from the old Hudson Bay Company about 1848, and have patched it up from time to time, but at last it has become simply untenable, the buildings rotting down, and has been abandoned. The purpose is to select a new site near the Dominion border, either at old Fort Colville or some point in that region, before the land is taken up by settlers, who are only too willing to make a homestead entry and thereafter make the United States pay roundly for it. We now propose to select the best site available before it is too late, and thereon erect a post for two companies of cavalry or infantry, to form a nucleus for a larger establishment in the near future. The sum asked for is the minimum possible.</p>
5	Rio Grande forts below El Paso, Tex.	\$200,000 00	<p>The three preceding posts, in connection with others already in existence, will complete the northern line.</p> <p>These forts are Rice, Presidio del Norte, Davis, Del Rio, Duncan, McIntosh, and San Antonio. It is impossible to segregate the items of each fort, because they are as a whole system designed to meet the complications of that troublesome border. The general plan is to make Fort Davis and San Antonio reserve posts, with their outposts on the Rio Grande, within easy and prompt reach of their reserves. We have for years been looking to that conclusion, and under the protection of the troops, the Mexican border raids which perplexed Congress for thirty years have practically ceased, and by reason of this fact Texas has prodigiously advanced in all her material interests. I believe that if General Augur be supplied the sum of money herein estimated for, he can complete the system begun, and that no further sum will be called for save for the ordinary repairs incident to all establishments. Fort Davis and San Antonio should be good posts, and the others mere picket stations. The railroads recently completed in Texas have been of inestimable assistance to the military authorities in maintaining the good order on the Rio Grande which has characterized the past three years.</p>
6	Fort Bliss, El Paso, Tex.....	50,000 00	<p>This post is at the point where the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé Railroad crosses the Rio Grande, which railroad has already reached Chihuahua, and will in the course of a year or two at farthest reach the city of Mexico. This simple fact makes El Paso a strategic point of the first importance. The site is not very good, but is the best attainable. The post is well built as far as it goes, but needs enlargement to accommodate a garrison of four companies, the least that should continuously occupy that point. The enlargement of Fort Bliss will obviate the necessity for the post estimated for at old Fort Selden to cost \$251,451.69.</p>
7	Fort Huachuca, Ariz.....	52,000 00	<p>This also is a comparatively new post, selected with good judgment, and is one of the very few in that desert region which is fit for occupation by anybody. A few shanties exist, which were erected by the troops, and these ought to be replaced by buildings decent enough for occupation by men banished to that region. This post is believed to be healthy and comparatively cool; that is, the thermometer gets down occasionally to 100° Fahrenheit. There is good water in the winter season, and is more abundant up the ravine, whence it may be brought to the post by pipes. The object of Fort Huachuca is to intercept parties of hostile Apaches, who go back and forth across the Mexican border, which is close by, and this post is also near the point where a railroad, branching off from the Southern California Pacific at Benson, reaches Guaymas, in Sonora, or the Gulf of California.</p>
8	Fort Grant, Ariz.....	60,000 00	<p>This post also, from personal inspection, I believe can be made permanent. It is situated well up the face of Mount Graham, out of which come springs of water of the greatest value in that arid region.</p>



*Memorandum of the military posts requiring the first attention—Continued.*

No.	Name.	Estimate.	Remarks.
8	Fort Grant, Ariz.....		Troops can be quartered there with reasonable health and comfort, and can thence re-enforce, on short notice, the minor posts in Arizona, which are now maintained to watch the restless Apaches, who have been a curse to that region "since the time whereof the memory of man," &c. These minor posts are Apache, Verde, McDowell, and Thomas. On the theory that the civilizing influences now at work in Arizona will soon make an end of the Apaches, I aim to keep up these minor posts by temporary expedients, but Huachuca and Grant should be made decent abodes for troops banished to that inhospitable region.
9	Fort Thornburgh, Utah....	\$94,000 00	This is absolutely a new post, designed to keep order among the tribes of Utes recently collected from Colorado and New Mexico at the Uintah Indian Reservation. The point has been selected, a military reservation has been declared by the President, and the troops were sent there last year, but were called in for the winter to the nearest posts, Bridger and Douglas. The necessity for this post is to quiet the fears of the surrounding country, and to answer the calls of the Indian agent charged with the duty of maintaining order among a mixed set of Indians, brought together from distant quarters, and as restless as a set of buffaloes. The military authorities do not court the task, but they know from past experience that unless this post is built the soldiers will be called on monthly to cross the Wahsatch and Uintah ranges of snow-clad mountains to assist the Indian agent, and therefore it is thought better to establish this post and occupy it permanently.
10	Fort Douglas, Utah.....	12,409 70	This is a good post, built of stone quarried on the reservation, and the present small estimate is designed to complete work already begun. As long as the Mormon people occupy the precarious relations towards the government as at present, Fort Douglas will be a necessity, and the post should be maintained of the first order.
Total estimates.....		698,409 70	

I am familiar with the history and wants of all the military posts in the inclosed list, but the foregoing are all that the committee seem willing to provide for at this time.

W. T. SHERMAN,  
General.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,  
Washington, D. C., February 2, 1883.

*Revised estimates for buildings at military posts for fiscal year ending June 30, 1884.*

Fortress Monroe, Va .....	\$46,830 00
Atlanta, Ga. (new).....	100,000 00
Fort Colville, Wash. (new).....	50,000 00
Posts on Rio Grande below El Paso.....	200,000 00
Fort Bliss, Tex .....	50,000 00
Fort Huachuca, Ariz .....	52,000 00
Fort Grant, Ariz .....	60,000 00
Fort Vancouver, Wash.....	50,000 00
Fort Canby, Wash .....	9,859 48
Fort Lewis, Colo .....	40,000 00
Fort Selden, N. Mex .....	251,451 69
San Antonio Depot approaches.....	3,500 00
Jefferson Barracks, Mo .....	24,938 44
Boise Barracks, Idaho.....	10,143 44
Fort Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.....	6,560 25
Fort Lapwai, Idaho .....	



Fort Klamath, Oreg.....	
Fort Walla Walla, Wash.....	\$38,163 62
Fort Halleck, Nev.....	
Fort Thornburgh, Utah, buildings and road.....	94,000 00
Fort Thomas, Ariz.....	30,000 00
Fort Apache, Ariz.....	61,000 00
Little Rock, Ark.....	33,160 00
Fort Leavenworth, Kans.....	47,545 67
Fort Custer, Mont.....	25,000 00
Fort Snelling, Minn.....	112,500 00
Fort Wayne, Mich.....	54,071 65
Madison Barracks, N. Y.....	52,888 90
Fort Douglas, Utah.....	12,409 70
Fort Niobrara, Nebr.....	63,793 75
Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo.....	108,113 28
Total.....	1,767,929 87

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 25, 1884.

### NAVY DEPARTMENT.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, January 5, 1883.

SIR: To enable the department to carry out the provisions of the act making appropriations for the naval service for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, which directs the Secretary of the Navy to appoint a commission, to consist of three persons, one from civil life, to report upon the question whether it is advisable to sell any of the navy-yards, &c., I have the honor to request that the sum of \$2,500 be included in the deficiency bill to cover the incidental expenses of said commission and the expenses and services of the civil commissioner who was selected under the authority of the act approved August 5, 1882.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

WM. E. CHANDLER,  
*Secretary of the Navy.*

Hon. FRANK HISCOCK,  
*Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.*

NAVY DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, January 27, 1883.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose a copy of a letter from a committee of the National Academy of Sciences asking that a National ship may convey a party of observers to and from Caroline Island, in the South Pacific, for the purpose of observing at that point the total solar eclipse which takes place on the 6th of May next, and which, on account of its long duration, is the most important that will occur during this century; and also asking me to transmit a request for an appropriation of \$5,000 to defray the expenses of transporting the party of observers, with their instruments, to and from the naval vessel, which this department will gladly furnish for the purpose required, and for the subsistence of the party during the period of their absence from home.

As it is important to science that this eclipse should be observed from the best attainable position, I have to request that the very reasonable sum asked for the support of the observers may be granted. It is intended to send the party by mail steamer to Callao, Peru, from which point they will be conveyed by one of the vessels of the Pacific squadron to and from Caroline Island.

Very respectfully,

WM. E. CHANDLER,  
*Secretary of the Navy.*

Hon. FRANK HISCOCK,  
*Chairman Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives.*

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